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ACCESSIBLE PARKING FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

A Guide to Your Rights Under the Law

Illinois residents with disabilities deserve the same high quality of life as non-disabled residents. The Office of the Attorney General is dedicated to tearing down barriers to accessibility for people with disabilities and replacing them with compassion and common sense.

The Disability Rights Bureau strives to make schools, the workplace, and all public facilities open and available to everyone. Questions and complaints about accessible parking represent the largest category of inquiries to the Bureau.

This brochure was developed to clarify accessible parking laws. If you have a question, see improperly marked accessible parking spaces or find a facility without any accessible parking spaces at all, please contact the Disability Rights Bureau.

It is the goal of the Office of the Attorney General to ensure full accessibility for all Illinois residents.

What is Accessible Parking?

Any facility offering parking for employees or visitors must provide accessible parking for persons with disabilities. An accessible parking space consists of a vehicle space and a striped access aisle. The entire space must be kept clear of obstructions at all times, including ice, snow, shopping carts, trash cans, potted plants, seasonal garden displays, bicycle racks and wheelstops.

Space Requirements

To comply with Illinois law, a minimum number of accessible parking spaces must be provided:

Total Off-Street Parking Spaces Provided	Number of accessible parking spaces required
1 to 25	1
26 to 50	2
51 to 75	3
76 to 100	4
101 to 150	5
151 to 200	6
201 to 300	7
301 to 400	8
401 to 500	9
501 to 1,000	2% of total number
over 1,000	20 plus 1 for each 100 over 1000

Medical facilities specializing in treatment....20% of total # of persons with mobility impairments

Outpatient medical facilities 10% of total number

Accessible Parking: Know the Rules

Location

Accessible parking spaces must be placed on level pavement on the shortest accessible route to an accessible entrance. If a curb ramp already exists, the accessible space may be placed near the ramp, even if it means placing the space further from the accessible entrance. If a curb ramp is new, both the curb ramp and the accessible parking space must be placed closest to the accessible entrance. A curb ramp must never be built into the diagonally-striped access aisle of an accessible parking space.

Size and Markings

Each accessible parking space, except on-street spaces, shall be 16 feet wide, with either an eight-foot wide or five-foot wide diagonally striped access aisle. A high quality yellow paint, manufactured especially for pavement striping, must be used. Adjacent accessible parking spaces cannot share a common access aisle.

Signs

A U.S. Department of Transportation R7-8 (Reserved Parking) and a R7-I101 (\$250 fine) sign must be mounted on a permanent post no lower than four feet from the pavement. The post must be mounted in the center of the 16-foot wide accessible parking space, no more than five feet from the front of the parking space. (A municipality may impose a fine up to \$350.)

To Register a Complaint

Individuals who see improperly marked accessible parking spaces, or facilities with no such spaces, can register their complaint with the Disability Rights Bureau.

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Printed by the authority of the state of Illinois.

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